

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIE-00

INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 RSR-01 /075 W

----- 036976

O R 232255Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5093

INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY BRQSILIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEGUCIGALPA 3197

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR OAJ HO CU

SUBJ: HONDURAN POSITION RE VENEZUELA INITIATIVE ON CUBA

REF: STATE 167208

SUMMARY: EMBASSY CITES PROPOSED AIDE MEMOIRE FOR GOH
FONMIN IN EVENT DEPT. HAS FURTHER GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. BEST INFORMATION WE HAVE ON FONMIN BATRES' TRAVEL
PLANS INDICATE HE WILL RETURN THIS WEEKEND. EMBASSY WOULD
HOPE TO DELIVER AIDE MEMOIRE NO LATER THAN MONDAY AUGUST
27 OR AUGUST 28.

2. INITIAL PRESENTATION WE HAVE PREPARED IS A LONG
FOLLOWING LINES DRAWN FROM TELEGRAPHIC GUIDANCE
PREVIOUSLY SUPPLIED. QUOTE: THE GOVERNMENT OF VENEZUELA
HAS RECENTLY MADE KNOWN TO DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES OF
OAS NATIONS RESIDENT IN CARACAS ITS DESIRE TO REFER TO
SOME APPROPRIATE FORUM OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN
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STATES (OAS) A RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD, IN EFFECT, LEAVE

EACH MEMBER STATE FREE TO MAKE ITS OWN DETERMINATION WITH RESPECT TO RESUMPTION OF RELATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA. IT IS APPARENTLY THE IDEA OF VENEZUELA THAT SUCH RESOLUTION COULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL OF THE OAS OR OTHER BODY IN WHICH ONLY A MAJORITY VOTE WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR PASSAGE OF THE PROPOSAL. A COPY OF THE RESOLUTION IS ENCLOSED WITH THIS AIDE MEMOIRE. FROM A POLITICAL STANDPOINT, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT THE DANGER TO THE HEMISPHERE FROM THE INTENTIONS AND ACTIONS OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT OF CUBA HAVE NOT CHANGED TO SUCH A DEGREE AS TO WARRANT A CHANGE IN OAS POLICY WITH RESPECT TO RELATIONS WITH THAT COUNTRY. IN ADDITION, AND VERY IMPORTANTLY, THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT SERIOUS JURIDICAL QUESTIONS ARE RAISED BY THE VENEZUELAN INITIATIVE.

THE ORIGINAL OAS RESOLUTION OF THE NINTH MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS IN 1964, WHICH CALLED FOR STATES SIGNATORY TO RIO TREATY TO SEVER RELATIONS AND TIES WITH CUBA IN THE LIGHT OF THE LATTER'S AGGRESSIVE ACTIONS

AGAINST HEMISPHERE SECURITY WAS PASSED PURSUANT TO ARTICLES 6 AND 8 OF THE INTERAMERICAN TREATY OF RECIPROCAL ASSISTANCE (RIO TREATY) BY MORE THAN THE TWO THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED FOR ACTIONS UNDER THAT AGREEMENT. IT IS CLEAR THAT ANY ANNULMENT OR MODIFICATION OF A DETERMINATION TAKEN BY TWO THIRDS OF THE SIGNATORY STATES CAN ONLY BE MADE BY A SIMILAR TWO THIRDS VOTE OF THE SIGNATORY STATES. ATTEMPTS TO AMEND "RIO TREATY" ACTIONS BY OTHER MEANS CAN ONLY HAVE THE EFFECT OF UNDERMINING THIS BASIC AND HISTORIC PILLAR OF INTER-AMERICAN SECURITY WITH SERIOUS AND UNFORESEEABLE EFFECTS FOR THE FUTURE. END QUOTE.

3. ANY FURTHER SUGGESTIONS DEPT. MAY HAVE TO INTENSIFY JURIDICAL FOCUS WOULD BE APPRECIATED ASAP. IF NO REPLY IS RECEIVED EMBASSY WILL PROCEED AS ABOVE.
SANCHEZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TEGUCI03197
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS SANCHEZ
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TEGUCIGALPA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730819/aaaaankx.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 167208
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <08 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HONDURAN POSITION RE VENEZUELA INITIATIVE ON CUBA
TAGS: PFOR, HO, CU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005